



NELSON TASMAN CLIMATE FORUM CHARTER

Toitū te marae a Tane-Mahuta, Toitū te marae a Tangaroa, Toitū te tangata
If the land is well and the sea is well, the people will thrive

Purpose Statement

The Forum's purpose is to weave our communities together around urgent, strategic action on climate change. Together, the Forum enables and supports expanded and accelerated action in our region to confront climate change, through the connection and alignment of people across and within communities and organisations.

Commitment

Recognising that:

- Human-induced climate change represents one of the greatest threats to the living world that sustains us and, by extension, to future human generations globally, in Aotearoa and in this region, through its impact on the life-supporting capacity of the natural environment, specifically air, water, soil, and ecosystems;
- If societies take urgent, informed, sustained and collaborative climate action, we can decrease and manage the adverse impacts of climate change; and
- Most responses to climate change also generate positive outcomes for environmental well-being and human communities.

We, the signatories, partner organisations and climate allies commit to working towards the goals outlined below for the Nelson and Tasman communities through:

- Inclusion and respect, particularly through acknowledging, respecting and working with ngā Iwi tangata whenua;
- Acting promptly, purposefully and responsibly, together and individually; and
- Participating in good faith in the Forum.

Goals

The Forum aims to enable, empower, and support Nelson-Tasman communities to achieve the following Goals:

1. Rapidly reduce our region's greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon sequestration and undertake other climate stabilising initiatives, consistent with the urgency of the situation.
2. Adapt to the likely adverse environmental effects of climate change and the resulting social and cultural effects, using inclusive and responsible decision-making to support these desirable outcomes.
3. Respond to climate change in a way that recognises the rights of all living organisms, including people, and provides for a just, equitable and resilient society.

TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Nature of the Forum

The function of the Forum will be to bring together diverse views and interests to align and proactively lead community responses to climate change. It is a collective of organisations and individuals. It is not a legal entity and has no delegated authority to make decisions that bind its members to any specific action, including funding. Members participate in accordance with legal requirements that apply to them.

The Forum endeavours to work by consensus.

The Forum will develop a Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan and facilitate its implementation, using an internally-focused Plan to Weave our Communities Together (Weaving Plan). It will review and update both plans as and when required to respond to new information and changing circumstances.

Membership of the Forum

Membership of the Forum is available to individual people and organisations at three levels of commitment: signatories, partner organisations and climate allies, as defined below. These levels have been defined to allow the widest possible participation in the Forum, by allowing individual people and organisations to determine their level of commitment.

All signatories, partner organisations and climate allies agree to work within any Operating Procedures developed and adopted by the Forum.

Signatories

Signatories to the Charter hold themselves accountable for actively leading implementation of the Weaving Plan to achieve the vision of the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan. They collectively ensure that actions in the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan are undertaken in good faith and to the best of their abilities. Signatories approve the Weaving Plan and Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan including revisions to those Plans, and also the Operating Procedures of the Forum.

Partner organisations

Partner organisations endorse the Charter and commit to act in good faith within their functions and capabilities to support the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum in achieving its goals. Partner organisations undertake to respond supportively to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan as the Forum implements its actions. Partner organisations can expect to be involved in forming revisions to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan and other strategic documents, but do not have decision-making authority. They are expected to work with the Forum in developing actions and projects but are not bound to anything that they do not choose to commit to.

Climate allies

Climate allies are individual people or organisations that endorse the Charter and commit to personal action to support its goals. Climate allies can expect to be kept informed and offered opportunities to participate in the Forum's activities.

Regardless of the level of commitment (if any) chosen by tangata whenua under this Charter, the Forum will continue to engage with and work alongside tangata whenua as kaitiaki of the rohe and as partners under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.